

# AHCA & Leading Age Join Forces

<https://www.ahcancal.org/Advocacy/Documents/Care%20for%20Our%20Seniors%20Act%20-%20Overview.pdf>



**CARE FOR OUR SENIORS ACT**  
*Improving America's Nursing Homes By Learning From Tragedy & Implementing Bold Solutions For The Future*

**AHCA** AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION **LeadingAge**

**STRENGTHENING LONG TERM CARE THROUGH IMPROVEMENTS**

CLINICAL	WORKFORCE	OVERSIGHT	STRUCTURAL
Enhancing the Quality of Care	Strengthening & Supporting Our Frontline Caregivers	Improving Systems to be More Resident-Driven	Modernizing for Resident Dignity & Safety

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The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and exacerbated long-standing challenges impacting the long-term care (LTC) profession. The American Health Care Association (AHCA) and LeadingAge are dedicated to learning from this experience, renewing our commitment to our seniors and offering solutions that will improve the quality of care in our nation's nursing homes.

AHCA and LeadingAge have developed four interrelated, investment strategies that will help ensure a robust and quality long term care system.

- 1** **Enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (EFMAP):** Increased federal Medicaid funds are provided to states to pay for the mandatory nursing facility benefit, with requirements that additional federal funds be used for nursing facility rates.
- 2** **Federal Framework for "Allowable Cost" or "Reasonable Cost":** Establish federal guidelines for state allowable cost definitions.
- 3** **Medicaid Rate Adequacy Requirement:** Medicaid rates are brought up to equal the cost of care and subsequently updated regularly to keep pace with increases in costs of care.
- 4** **State Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Committee & Required Design Report:** The state will be required to form and maintain a state, health plan, and nursing facility VBP committee with specific guidelines and deadlines to submit reports. This offers the potential for additional resources.